

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

I. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Name and Address: **Planning and Design** for the Preliminary Engineering Report and Combined Sewer Overflow Long Term Control Plan
City of Mt. Vernon
City Hall Annex
520 Main Street
Mount Vernon, IN 47620

SRF Project Number: WW06 49 65 02

Authorized Representative: The Honorable Rosemary Knowles, Mayor

II. PROJECT LOCATION

Mt. Vernon is located in south central Posey County, approximately 20 miles west of Evansville, Indiana.

III. PROJECT NEED AND PURPOSE

No construction is associated with this project. This project will only address planning and design; the actual construction project will be implemented later after further review.

Mt. Vernon will prepare a revised Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) for review by the State Revolving Fund and an updated Combined Sewer Overflow Long Term Control Plan (CSO LTCP) for review by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM). Both of these documents will ensure that the proposed project(s) achieve compliance with the city's Agreed Order (AO) in accomplishing the goals of the CSO LTCP.

The PER and CSO LTCP will incorporate results performed by the following tasks: flow monitoring the entire sewer system to determine baseline flows and wet weather flows; smoke testing the E & S Housing and Country Club Estates sanitary sewer systems to identify and eliminate sources of infiltration and inflow (I/I); conducting manhole

inspections of the entire system to determine sources of I/I; and generating a computer model on portions of the combined sewer system to analyze and interpret the impacts of wet weather events on the sewer system and the wastewater treatment plant. Final design will not occur until after the PER has been approved by the SRF. The city will obtain all permits necessary to bid and construct the project.

There are no feasible alternatives to the proposed action. The “no-action” alternative was rejected, since the city is under an Agreed Order to address the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit requirements for submitting a CSO LTCP and also eliminating a sanitary sewer overflow at E & S Housing.

IV. PROJECT COSTS, AFFORDABILITY AND FUNDING

Mt. Vernon will borrow \$350,000 for planning and design costs at a fixed interest rate to be determined at loan closing; the loan term is no more than 20-years. Monthly user rates and charges may need to be analyzed to determine if any adjustments are required for repayment of the SRF loan. After bids are received, the city will close a second SRF loan to fund actual project construction; that construction project will go through an environmental, technical and financial review coordinated by the SRF programs.

V. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES

Since this project will consist only of planning and design, there will be no substantive negative environmental impacts. IDEM’s finding pursuant to Section 106 of the Historic Preservation Act is: “no historic properties affected.”

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A properly noticed public hearing will be held in advance of the second SRF loan closing at the City Hall, in Mount Vernon to discuss the proposed wastewater project.